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SNOWY OWL AT SPRING HILL, TENNESSEE

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A Snowy Owl (*Nyctea scandiaca*) was found by Bill Rogers near the GM plant in Spring Hill, Maury County, Tennessee on 15 January 2009. The bird was identified as an immature male and was observed at the site regularly until 15 February 2009. The owl was photographed and observed by dozens of birders from around the southeast. This Snowy Owl represents the 12th record for the state of Tennessee (Robinson 1990, Knight 2008, R. Knight pers. comm.). Tommy Edwards with Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) learned that bird had been photographed by GM employees on 3 December 2008, six weeks before birders became aware of its presence.

Birders contributed greatly to the knowledge of the Snowy Owl and its winter ecology in Tennessee. This bird overwintered on site in Spring Hill, Tennessee for at least 2.5 months, which is the longest documented stay of a Snowy Owl in Tennessee. We also gained insight into the diet of wintering irruptive Snowy Owls in this region. On 26 January 2009, the owl was observed regurgitating a pellet from atop a street light on GM plant property. The regurgitation of the pellet was also captured on video which is available online (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MPidiwaHgg). An unknown GM employee collected the pellet and gave it to Elaine Foust, who then transferred it to the author. Analysis of the pellet was conducted by mammalogist Dr. Michael Kennedy at University of Memphis and Ed Warr and Roger Applegate of TWRA. They identified 3 Prairie Vole (*Microtus ochrogaster*) skulls with jaw bones in the pellet. No other identifiable food items were found. Prairie Voles are a common small rodent in middle Tennessee.

The diet of wintering Snowy Owls in Tennessee is very poorly known. The only previous assessment was conducted on pellets from a bird found by John Robinson at Barkley Wildlife Management Area, in Dover, Stewart County from 5 January - 6 February 1987 (Robinson 1988, Robinson 1990). John Robinson noted that the "owl pellets cast by this bird were analyzed and found to contain remains of a Pied-billed Grebe, prairie vole, a duck the size of a Mallard and an American Coot" (Robinson 1988). The voles found in the pellet from the Spring Hill owl were consistent with what the Stewart County owl was found to have consumed in 1987. Prairie Voles may be a key food item for Snowy Owls wintering in Tennessee.

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The Migrant 81 (3): 109-110, 2010

ANOTHER PINE SISKIN NEST AT ROAN MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE

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On 12 May 2009 a pair of Pine Siskins (*Spinus pinus*) was observed feeding three half-grown young in a nest on Roan Mountain, Carter County, Tennessee. The nest site is at a cluster of summer homes at the intersection of TN Hwy 143 and Rustic Cabin Road halfway up the mountain at about 4450 ft. (1360 m) elevation. The nest was 8.5 ft. (2.6 m) above ground on one of the lowest branches of a Red Spruce (*Picea rubens*) about 35-40 ft. (10-12 m) tall. Although a native tree, this individual was probably planted as an ornamental and is situated only about 20 ft. (6 m) off the road in the edge of a yard. The adjacent forest is northern hardwood, but there are other ornamental conifers scattered around the few small grassy yards nearby. The nest was generally well concealed in the foliage near the tip of the branch, but was partially exposed on the side facing the road, which facilitated its discovery. Both adults fed the young. In the yard across the road was a sock-type feeder which attracted several siskins and American Goldfinches (*Spinus tristis*); however, I could not determine if the parent siskins were among those using the feeder. When observed approaching the nest, the parents came from a different direction than the feeder. Both parents arrived together for each of the three feedings witnessed within a half-hour period.

I revisited the site on 21 May, but saw no activity around the nest and it was empty, as expected, since the young should have fledged by then. There were still several siskins in the vicinity. A close examination of the nest revealed that it was made of spruce twigs and rootlets, lined with hair. Its outside dimensions were 9.5 cm wide and 5 cm thick. The inside dimensions of the cup were 5 cm wide and 2.5 cm deep. There was a considerable amount of excrement stuck to the outer edge of the nest on one side, typical for Cardueline finches (Baicich and Harrison 1997). The nest placement was well below the average nest height of 20 ft. (6 m) noted by Harrison (1975) and just above the low extreme of 6 ft. (1.8 m). The three nestlings fit within the average clutch size of three to four for this species (Harrison 1975, Baicich and Harrison 1997).

This was the second nest of Pine Siskin found in Tennessee and the third for Roan Mountain. Trently and Biller (2008) described a nest under construction on 6 May 2007, which contained at least one egg on 19 May. This nest was in an ornamental Blue Spruce (*Picea pungens*) in a yard across the road from the nest described above. Knight (1994) reported a nest with an incubating adult on 13 July 1993 and young in the nest on 1 August near the Rhododendron Gardens on the summit of Roan Mountain, just barely into North Carolina. Pine Siskins have been regular

summer residents of the spruce-fir forest on the summit of Roan Mountain annually from 1982-2009 and sporadically back to 1962 (Knight 2010). Additionally, there was a major irruption of siskins into the Tennessee and North Carolina region during the winter of 2008-2009 (Knight 2009; Southern 2009) prior to the present nest record. Other indications of breeding by siskins in Tennessee were summarized by McNair (1997), although none were considered to represent confirmed breeding. Two other nests have been documented from North Carolina, with nest construction and apparent incubation before being abandoned during 12-23 April 1991 in Transylvania County (Siebenheller and Siebenheller 1992) and a nest with two young on 14 June 1992 in Jackson County (Simpson 1993).

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The Migrant 81 (3): 111, 2010

TRANSFER OF BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER SPECIMEN

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The carcass of a male Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Setophaga nigrescens*) was salvaged on 2 October 1972 after a major tower-kill occurred two nights earlier on the summit of Holston Mountain, Carter County, Tennessee (Herndon 1972, 1973). The preserved specimen has been housed at Milligan College, Tennessee, with the specimen number MC 184. As of this writing, it remains as the only record for this species in the state.

In July 2011 this specimen was transferred to the Louisiana State University (LSU) Museum of Natural Science in Baton Rouge to provide a more secure long-term home. LSU has one of the largest avian collections in the country, including a good set of Tennessee birds currently totaling about 2200 specimens (i.e., the collection of Albert F. Ganier, etc.). The new specimen number is LSUMZ 182658 (J.V. Remsen, pers. comm.). This note is to alert researchers to the specimen's new location.

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The Migrant 81 (3): 112, 2010

UNUSUAL WAXWING MORTALITY

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The Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) is primarily frugivorous, consuming a wide variety of small fruits; however, they also feed opportunistically on insects. While they may glean insects from vegetation, Witmer (2001:486) states that waxwings "typically sally for aerial insect prey, especially emerging aquatic forms". This note reports an unusual waxwing death arising from this latter feeding behavior.

Vern Maddux was fishing in the Watauga River near Elizabethton in Carter County, Tennessee, on 21 November 2010 when he noticed a dead bird hanging from a low tree branch over the water. A closer look revealed a Cedar Waxwing hanging by a short section of monofilament fishing line wrapped around the branch with a trout fly embedded in the bird's upper mandible. This river is a popular trout fishing area, particularly for fly-fishermen. Evidently an angler's errant cast had resulted in a broken leader, with the lure still attached, hanging from a branch. Later the waxwing presumably mistook the dangling trout fly, perhaps swaying in a breeze, as a genuine insect and became hooked when it snatched the fly. The fresh waxwing carcass, trout fly left in place, was salvaged due to the unusual circumstances of the bird's death and delivered to Milligan College for use in the teaching collection of the biology department.

Thanks to Vern Maddux for reporting the discovery, Joe McGuiness for relaying the information and specimen, and Gary Wallace for maintaining the Milligan collection.

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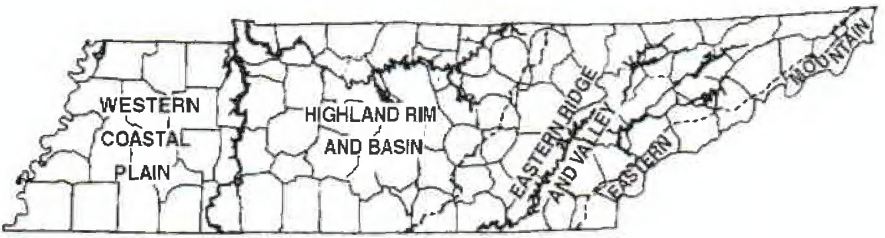
The Migrant 81 (3): 113-123, 2010

THE SPRING SEASON

RICHARD L. KNIGHT, Editor



1 MARCH - 31 MAY 2010

Following a rather cold winter, March temperatures were near normal, while April and May were several degrees warmer than average. Rainfall varied widely from a flood-causing cloudburst in Middle Tennessee to rather dry conditions in the two eastern regions. Despite the mildness, most observers commented that migrant passerines were generally late and in low numbers this spring.

Rarity highlights included Neotropic Cormorant and Swainson's Hawk in West Tennessee, as well as Eurasian Wigeon, White-faced Ibis, and Yellow Rail in East Tennessee.

Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks returned to Shelby County for the third straight year. Mississippi Kites appeared at three sites well to the east of their expected haunts; all were overshooting migrants, as was a Swallow-tailed Kite in the Smokies. Purple Gallinules were found in Franklin and Knox counties; there have been very few reports of this marsh dweller in recent years. Highlights of a fairly decent shorebird flight included Black-necked Stilts, Willets, and Wilson's Phalaropes in the two middle regions, where they are less than annual. Fish Crow expansion continues in several areas. A few Bewick's Wrens remain in Rutherford County. Henslow's Sparrows returned to nesting areas in the central portion of the state. Brown-headed Nuthatches were found at a new site on the plateau. These and other signs of a dynamic avifauna in the Volunteer State continue to amaze.

Standard Abbreviations

ad - adult
Co - County
Cr - Creek
ers - earliest reported sighting
et al. - and others
fide - reported by
im - immature
Is. - Island
L - Lake
lrs - latest reported sighting
max - maximum count
m.ob. - many observers
Mtn - Mountain
NWR - National Wildlife Refuge
R - River
SP - State Park
WMA - Wildlife Management Area
yg - young

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN — *Duck - Falcon*: **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck**: 25 Apr (1) city park in Martin, Weakley Co (David Pitts); 1 / 24 May (1 / 26) Ensley (JRW), ers there / max; 17 May (7) Hatchie NWR (DK). **American White Pelican**: 14 Mar (125) Gibson Co (MAG). **NEOTROPIC CORMORANT**: 25 Apr (1) Hatchie NWR (JRW, Joe Guinn, photos). **Cattle Egret**: 3 Apr (2) Shelby Farms (JRW), ers. **Mississippi Kite**: 11 Apr (2) Millington, Shelby Co (VH), ers. **SWAINSON'S HAWK**: 24 Apr (1 ad.) Eagle Lake WMA, Shelby Co (JRW). **Red-tailed Hawk**: 22 Mar (1 "Krider's" & 1 *calurus*) Gibson Co (MAG). **Golden Eagle**: 20 May (1) Shelby Co (VH). **Peregrine Falcon**: 6 May (1) Ensley (JRW); 12 May (1) Lake Co (MCT).

Plover - Tern: **Black-bellied Plover**: 3 May (1) Gibson Co (MAG), nocturnal fly-over; 8 / 21 May (13 / 1) Lake Co (JRW / MCT). **American Golden-Plover**: 13 Mar (32) Ensley (JRW), ers; 8 Apr (1200+) Lake Co (MAG), max; 8 May (56) Lake Co (JRW), lrs. **Semipalmated Plover**: 6 Jun (2) Ensley (JRW), lrs. **Black-necked Stilt**: 20 Mar (2) TVA Lake, Shelby Co (JRW), ers; 8 Apr (2 / 4) Dyer Co / Lake Co (MAG); 24 Apr (20) Phillipy, Lake Co (Nancy Moore); 30 Apr (1) Hatchie NWR (AJT). **Greater Yellowlegs**: 8 Apr (1700+) Lake Co (MAG), max. **Lesser Yellowlegs**: 7 Mar (3) Ensley (VBR), ers. **Upland Sandpiper**: 2-3 Apr (3-6) Shelby Farms (JRW); 8 Apr (2) Lake Co (MAG). **Western Sandpiper**: 1 May (1) Ensley (JRW), ers. **Semipalmated Sandpiper**: 6 Jun (8 / 42) 2 sites in Shelby Co (JRW), lrs. **Least Sandpiper**: 3 Jun (2) Ensley (JRW), lrs. **White-rumped Sandpiper**: 2 May - 6 Jun (12-23) Ensley (JRW); 12 May (8) Lake Co (MCT); 6 Jun (22) north Memphis (JRW). **Baird's Sandpiper**: 28 Apr - 11 May (max 21 on 2 May) Ensley (JRW). **Pectoral Sandpiper**: 8 Apr (800+) Lake Co (MAG), max. **Dunlin**: 28 Apr - 11 May / 1 Jun (1-9 / 1) Ensley (JRW / SGS). **Stilt Sandpiper**: 25 Apr (1) Ensley (CHB, VBR), ers. **Long-billed Dowitcher**: 11 Mar (7) Ensley (JRW), ers; 8 May (21) Lake Co (JRW), max. **Wilson's Snipe**: 8 May (1) Lake Co (JRW), lrs. **Wilson's Phalarope**: 25 Apr - 8 May (2-12, with a max of 49 on 2 May) Ensley (CHB, VBR, JRW, m.ob.); 9 May (1) Lake Co (JRW). **Franklin's Gull**: 6 Jun (1) Miss. R., Shelby Co (JRW), late migrant. **Black Tern**: 9 / 21 May (1 / 30) Lake Co (JRW / MCT), ers / max; 6 Jun (1) Miss. R., Shelby Co (JRW), lrs. **Common Tern**: 9 May (1) Lake Co (JRW).

Flycatcher - Swallow: **Olive-sided Flycatcher**: 12 May (1) Obion Co (MCT). **Alder Flycatcher**: 20 May (1) Gibson Co (MCT). **Great Crested Flycatcher**: 7 Apr (1) Obion Co (MAG), ers. **Western Kingbird**: 8 / 15-17 May (1 / 13 pairs) Shelby Co (JRW), ers / max. **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**: 7 May (3) west of Tenn. R. & south of Hwy 64, Hardin Co (AJT); 8 May (1) Lauderdale Co (JRW). **Western Kingbird x Scissor-tailed Flycatcher hybrids**: 15 May - a female hybrid resembling a Scissor-tail returned to President's Is. for 7th season & a female hybrid resembling a Western Kingbird returned to Frayser for 5th season (JRW), both in Shelby Co.. **Bell's Vireo**: 19 / 21 May (1, singing) west of Reelfoot L., Lake Co (Fred Alsop, SGS / MCT). **Yellow-throated Vireo**: 3 Apr (1) Jackson (AJT), ers. **Warbling Vireo**: 30 Mar (1) Shelby Co (VH), new early date in state. **Philadelphia Vireo**: 11 May (1) Henry Co (MCT); 17 May (1) Obion Co (MCT). **Fish Crow**: 11 Mar (1) McKenzie, Carroll Co

(MCT), 1st record in town; 19 Mar (2) Cypress Grove Park, Jackson (AJT); 30 Mar (1) Mt. Orange, Gibson Co (MAG); 8 Apr (6) Lake Co (MAG); 12 Apr (2) Forked Deer R., Gibson Co (MAG). **Purple Martin**: 11 Mar (1) Gibson Co (MAG), ers. **Northern Rough-winged Swallow**: 19 Mar (1) Jackson (AJT), ers. **Barn Swallow**: 22 Mar (1) Gibson Co (MAG), ers.

Thrush - Blackbird: **Swainson's Thrush**: 6 Apr (1) Obion Co (MAG), ers. **Wood Thrush**: 12 Apr (1) Gibson Co (MAG), ers. **Golden-winged Warbler**: 3 May (1) Gibson Co (MAG). **Prothonotary Warbler**: 3 Apr (1) Jackson (AJT), ers. **Swainson's Warbler**: 23 Apr (2 / 1) Henry Co / Carroll Co (MCT), ers. **Hooded Warbler**: 6 Apr (1) Obion Co (MAG), ers. **Painted Bunting**: 25 Apr (1) Ensley (CHB, VBR), ers. **Dickcissel**: 25 Apr (4) Ensley (CHB, VBR), ers. **Vesper Sparrow**: 23 Apr (1) Henry Co (MCT), lrs. **Lark Sparrow**: 23 Apr (pair, carrying nest material) Carroll Co (MCT); 25 Apr (1) Tipton Co (JRW); 4 May (1) Gibson Co (MAG). **LeConte's Sparrow**: 20 Mar (1) Ensley (JRW). **Lincoln's Sparrow**: 14 Mar (1) Moss Is. WMA, Dyer Co (CHB, VBR), ers. **Yellow-headed Blackbird**: 25 Apr (1 male) Hatchie NWR (Gay Hodges, photo).

Addendum: **Grasshopper Sparrow**: 14 Dec 2009 (1) Bogota WMA, Dyer Co (Glen Criswell).

Locations: Ensley - in Shelby Co; Hatchie NWR - in Haywood Co; Shelby Farms - in Shelby Co.

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HIGHLAND RIM AND BASIN REGION — Temperatures for the spring season in the Nashville area were cooler than normal in March, but averaged 3 to 4 degrees above normal in April and May. For the first two months of the season precipitation was somewhat below normal. That pattern changed dramatically on the first two days of May. At Nashville a new official rainfall record of 13.57 inches was set, more than doubling the previous record for a two day total. However, reports from surrounding areas indicated that some places received more than 20 inches of rain. This regional deluge caused major flooding in Middle Tennessee, wreaking havoc on much low-lying habitat.

Duck - Falcon: **Blue-winged Teal**: 9 Mar (1) Radnor L (FF), ers. **Redhead**: 3 Mar (15) Radnor L (Scott Block). **Ring-necked Duck**: 8 May (1) Shelby Park (TJW), lrs. **Long-tailed Duck**: from Feb thru 6 Mar (2) Percy Priest L., Davidson Co (m.ob.). **Hooded Merganser**: 25 Apr (female with 8 yg) Shelby Bottoms (PDC, Bob Ingle), 1st Co breeding record. **Common Loon**: 27 May (1) Old Hickory L., Sumner Co (CAS), lrs. **Eared Grebe**: 18 Mar (1) Percy Priest L., Davidson Co (SGS), holdover

from Feb. **American White Pelican**: 23 May (1) Tenn. R., Houston Co (SY). **Green Heron**: 14 Apr (1) Duck R. Unit (SGS, CF), ers. **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**: 25 Mar (2) Sylvan Park, Davidson Co (Michael Bierly), ers. **Mississippi Kite**: 7 May (1) Walker Branch SNA (AJT); 18 May (1) Robertson Co (TL). **Merlin**: 2 Apr (1) Rutherford Co (SGS). **Peregrine Falcon**: 21 Mar (1) Duck R. Unit (Steve Routledge); 24 Apr (1) Old Hickory L., Davidson Co (CAS).

Gallinule - Tern: **Purple Gallinule**: 5 May (1, found weakened) near Tims Ford L., Franklin Co (fide Laura McCall), taken to rehabilitator LouAnn Partington, released near Chattanooga on 3 Jun. **Sandhill Crane**: 6 Mar (40) Bell's Bend (Amy Potter, NTOS). **Black-bellied Plover**: 24 May (8) Duck R. Unit (CF), max there. **American Golden-Plover**: 5 Apr (2) Duck R. Unit (CF). **Black-necked Stilt**: 5-15 Apr (2) Duck R. Unit (CF). **Willet**: 30 Apr (31) Duck R. Unit (CF). **Ruddy Turnstone**: 24 May (5) Duck R. Unit (CF). **Dunlin**: 7 May (1) Walker Branch SNA (AJT); 24 May (1) Duck R. Unit (CF). **Long-billed Dowitcher**: 3 May (2) Robertson Co (TL, ES). **Wilson's Phalarope**: 3 May (3) Robertson Co (TL, ES); 7 May (5) Walker Branch SNA (AJT). **Common Tern**: 27 May (1) Old Hickory L., Sumner Co (CAS), was wearing a band.

Cuckoo - Waxwing: **Yellow-billed Cuckoo**: 14 Apr (1) Radnor L. (FF, PDC), ers. **Barn Owl**: 1 Apr (1) Warren Co (N.P. McWhirter). **Whip-poor-will**: 3 Apr (1) Montgomery Co (SY), ers. **Olive-sided Flycatcher**: 13 May (1) Radnor L. (DK, m.ob.). **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**: 20-21 May (1) Radnor L. (FF, m.ob.). **Acadian Flycatcher**: 25 Apr (1) Radnor L (CAS), ers. **Alder Flycatcher**: 11 May (1) Lewis Co (WMP); 20 May (1) Putnam Co (SJS). **Willow Flycatcher**: 8 May (1) Shelby Park (TJW), ers. **Eastern Kingbird**: 14 Apr (1) Duck R. Unit (SGS), ers. **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**: 15 Apr thru season (2) Lytle Cr. Rd., Rutherford Co (TJW, m.ob.); 8 May (1) Florence Rd., Rutherford Co (SGS). **White-eyed Vireo**: 5 Apr (1) Montgomery Co / Shelby Park (SY / PDC, FF), ers. **Yellow-throated Vireo**: 4 Apr (3) Radnor L. (KB), ers. **Blue-headed Vireo**: 22 Mar / 27 May (1) Cheatham WMA, Cheatham Co (SGS), ers / lrs. **Philadelphia Vireo**: 5 May (1) Shelby Park (PDC), ers; 19 May (2) Radnor L. (KB, NTOS). **Fish Crow**: 6 Apr (1) Lewis Co (WMP), 1st Co record. **Purple Martin**: 19 Mar (1) Shelby Bottoms (PDC), ers. **Northern Rough-winged Swallow**: 18 Mar (1) Robertson Co (TL), ers. **Cliff Swallow**: 1 Apr (1) Robertson Co (TL), ers. **Barn Swallow**: 29 Mar (1) Davidson Co (FF), ers. **Bewick's Wren**: 15 Apr thru season (pair) Lytle Cr. Rd., Rutherford Co & (3 singing) Alsup Mill Rd., Rutherford / Wilson Co (TJW, m.ob.), a nest with 5 eggs on 29 Apr at the former site (SGS). **Marsh Wren**: 10 May (1) Bell's Bend (DK). **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**: 31 Mar (1) Montgomery Co (SY), ers. **Veery**: 29 Apr (1) Radnor L (PDC), ers. **Wood Thrush**: 14 Apr (1) Davidson Co / DeKalb Co (ES / SJS), ers. **Cedar Waxwing**: 14 May (500) Nashville (Linda V. Kelly), max.

Warblers: **Blue-winged Warbler**: 7 Apr (1) Lewis Co / Cheatham Co (WMP / PDC, MAZ), ers. **Tennessee Warbler**: 17 Apr (1) Nashville (MAZ), ers. **Nashville Warbler**: 21 Apr (1) Radnor L. (KB, NTOS), ers. **Northern Parula**: 2 Apr (1) Hidden

Lake SP, Davidson Co (Clay Collins), ers. **Yellow Warbler**: 11 Apr (1) Dickson Co (Duane Rice et al.), ers. **Magnolia Warbler**: 30 Apr (1) Davidson Co (ES), ers. **Cape May Warbler**: 30 Apr (1) Davidson Co (ES), ers. **Black-throated Blue Warbler**: 18 Apr (1) Peeler Park, Davidson Co (Barbara Harris). **Black-throated Green Warbler**: 31 Mar (1) Radnor L. (FF), ers. **Yellow-throated Warbler**: 4 Apr (1) Davidson Co (ES), ers. **Prairie Warbler**: 4 Apr (1) Robertson Co (TL), ers. **Bay-breasted Warbler**: 29 Apr (1) Radnor L (PDC), ers. **Blackpoll Warbler**: 25 Apr (2) Radnor L. (CAS), ers. **Cerulean Warbler**: 9 Apr (1) DeKalb Co (Holly Taylor fide SJS), ers; 20 May (53) western Putnan Co (SJS), highest total in 7 years of covering an 82 km route. **Black-and-white Warbler**: 7 Apr (1) Lewis Co (WMP), ers. **American Redstart**: 20 May (72) western Putnam Co (SJS), highest total in 7 years of covering 82 km route. **Prothonotary Warbler**: 10 Apr (1) Narrows of the Harpeth SP, Cheatham Co (PDC, MAZ), ers. **Worm-eating Warbler**: 8 Apr (1) Davidson Co (ES), ers; 26-28 May (66) Cheatham WMA, Cheatham Co (SGS), max. **Northern Waterthrush**: 23 Apr (1) Davidson Co (PDC), ers. **Louisiana Waterthrush**: 17 Mar (1) Basin Springs, Williamson Co (Melinda Welton), ers. **Kentucky Warbler**: 20 Apr (1) Davidson Co (ES), ers. **Connecticut Warbler**: 15 May (1) Radnor L. (DK, FF, CAS m.ob.). **Mourning Warbler**: 10-21 May (1-3) Radnor L. (JKS, KB, FF, m.ob.); 12 May (1) Shelby Bottoms (PDC, DK); 18 May (1) Bell's Bend (JKS); 29 May (1) Hickman Co (WMP). **Hooded Warbler**: 21 Apr (1) Davidson Co (ES), ers. **Wilson's Warbler**: 3 May (1) Rutherford Co (SGS); 11-13 May (1) Radnor L. (JKS et al.); 18 May (1) Bell's Bend (JKS). **Canada Warbler**: 12 May (2) Radnor L (KB, NTOS). **Yellow-breasted Chat**: 25 Apr (2) Shelby Bottoms (PDC), ers.

Sparrow - Finch: **Vesper Sparrow:** 18 Mar (3) Warren Co (SNM). **Lark Sparrow**: 25 Apr / 9 May (2 / 3) Rutherford Co (TL / SGS); 7 May (1) Walker Branch SNA (AJT). **Grasshopper Sparrow**: 15 Apr (1) Rutherford Co (TJW), ers. **Henslow's Sparrow**: 17 Apr thru season (3) Bell's Bend (CAS, m.ob.); 23 May (10) Lewis Co (WMP). **Summer Tanager**: 10 Apr (1) Beaman Park, Davidson Co (Duane Rice), ers. **Scarlet Tanager**: 13 Apr (2) Putnam Co (SJS), ers. **Rose-breasted Grosbeak**: 23 Apr (1) Montgomery Co / Robertson Co (Barbara Wilbur / TL), ers; 26 May (1) Davidson Co (ES), lrs. **Blue Grosbeak**: 23 Apr (1) Robertson Co (TL), ers. **Indigo Bunting**: 5 Apr (1) Montgomery Co (SY), ers. **Dickcissel**: 6 May (70) near Manchester, Coffee Co (Laura McCall, Ruth Luckado); 23 May (2) Warren Co (SNM). **Orchard Oriole**: 14 Apr (1) Davidson Co (Linda V. Kelly), ers. **Baltimore Oriole**: 25 Apr (1) Radnor L (CAS), ers. **Purple Finch**: 21 Apr (1) Davidson Co (ES), lrs.

Locations: Bell's Bend - in Davidson Co; Duck R. Unit - unit of Tennessee NWR, Humphreys Co; Radnor L. - in Davidson Co; Shelby Park / Bottoms - in Davidson Co; Walker Branch SNA - a State Natural Area in Hardin Co.

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CUMBERLAND PLATEAU / RIDGE & VALLEY REGION — Overall, this spring was warmer and drier than average. Temperatures were near normal in March, but were noticeably above average in April, especially over the first half of the month, and May. Rainfall was deficient each month, except that the Chattanooga area had a slight surplus in May. Still, most of the region had a total deficit of 3 to 4 inches this season.

There were a few early migrants, apparently prompted by the early warmth. Despite this, however, much of the migrational flight seemed to be one or two weeks late. Furthermore, numbers seemed rather low, especially for purely transient species. Did they simply pass over without stopping?

Rarity highlights this season included a drake Eurasian Wigeon in Sullivan County and a White-faced Ibis in Hawkins County, each representing just the second record in East Tennessee, plus a Yellow Rail in Hamilton County. Also notable were Eared Grebe, Mississippi Kite, Purple Gallinule, Common Moorhen, Black-necked Stilt, and four reports of Connecticut Warbler.

Significant breeding reports included those for Hooded Merganser, Bald Eagle, Red-shouldered Hawk, and Eurasian Collared-Dove. A Common Raven at Frozen Head was one of few modern reports from the northern portion of the Cumberlands, while a Fish Crow was new for Anderson County. Both of these corvids are expanding in East Tennessee.

Goose - Falcon: **Greater White-fronted Goose**: 13-19 May (2) John Sevier L. (SHu, photo), late & only report. **Snow Goose**: 20 Mar (1) Polk Co (Rick Houlk). **Tundra Swan**: 7 Mar (1) Greene Co (DHM). **EURASIAN WIGEON**: 6 Mar (1 male) Steele Cr. Park (LCM, photo), about the 17th state record (4th in spring), but just the 2nd record in East Tenn. **American Black Duck**: 19 May (2) John Sevier L. (SHu, DHM), lrs. **Long-tailed Duck**: 7-17 Mar (1) Nickajack L, Marion Co (TLR et al.). **Hooded Merganser**: 8 May (female with 2 small yg) Bowmantown, Washington Co (GDE), 1st confirmed breeding in NE Tenn. **Common Loon**: 14 May (2) Austin Springs (RLK), lrs. **Eared Grebe**: 15 Mar (3) John Sevier L. (SHu). **American White Pelican**: 7 Apr (2) Tenn. R., Hamilton Co (Rick Houlk). **American Bittern**: 8 May (2) Brainerd Levee (KAC). **Least Bittern**: 2 May thru season (1-2) Standifer Gap Marsh (KAC et al.). **Little Blue Heron**: 2 May (1 ad) Brainerd Levee (KAC, DRJ). **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**: 3 Apr thru season (7 occupied nests at 3 sites) Kingsport (RLK, RAP, Bill Grigsby, m.ob.); 4 / 8 May (1) Hamilton Co (KAC / DRJ). **WHITE-FACED IBIS**: 12 May (1) John Sevier L. (SHu, DHM, photo), about the 10th state record, but just 2nd in East Tenn. **Turkey Vulture**: 2 Apr (2 eggs) Limestone (fide RLK), precedes early date for eggs in Breeding Bird Atlas by 1 day. **Osprey**: 5 Mar (1) Rankin Bottoms (MBS),ers, with 14 active nests in the Rankin vicinity by season's end. **Mississippi Kite**: late May (1) Cumberland Co (EKL). **Bald Eagle**: 6 Apr (nest with 2 yg) near John Sevier L. (SHu), new site; 13 Apr (8) Rankin Bottoms (MBS), concentration feeding on spawning carp. **Red-shouldered Hawk**: 18 Mar thru season (nesting pair) greenbelt along Reedy Cr., Kingsport (Bill Grigsby, RLK, m.ob.),

where a pair has nested since 2004, still a rare nester in NE Tenn; 25 May (3) Phipps Bend, Hawkins Co (RAP). **Broad-winged Hawk**: 30 Mar (3) Hamilton Co (David Stone), ers; 15 Apr (11 in kettle) Steele Cr. Park (LCM), infrequently seen migrating in group in spring in Tenn. **Merlin**: 4 Mar (1) Bledsoe Co (EKL); 7 Mar (1) Brainerd Levee (TLR); 3 / 26 Apr (1) Knox Co (KDE); 5 Apr (1) Greene Co (DAH); 12 Apr (1) John Sevier L. (SHu); 13 Apr (1) Johnson City (RBB); 16 Apr (1) Tenn. R., Hamilton Co (KAC). **Peregrine Falcon**: 6 Mar / 12 Apr (1) separate Greene Co sites (DHM / DAH); 8 May (1) Hamilton Co (DRJ), only report there, with no activity noted at the recent breeding area near Chickamauga Dam for 3rd straight year.

Rail - Tern: **YELLOW RAIL**: 1 May (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (LAW), 2nd SE Tenn record. **Virginia Rail**: 2 & 11 Apr / 8 May (1-2) Kingsport (RAP); thru season (1-2) Standifer Gap Marsh (KAC et al.). **Sora**: 24 Apr (4) Bible Refuge (DHM); 3 May (2) Austin Springs (RLK); 8 May (1) Kingsport (RAP). **Purple Gallinule**: 9 May (1) Fort Loudoun L., Knox Co (Susan Hoyle). **Common Moorhen**: 2 Apr (1) Kingsport (RAP). **Sandhill Crane**: 18 Mar (1) Limestone (GDE, Roy Knispel), east of usual migration corridor. **Black-bellied Plover**: 27 May (1) John Sevier L. (SHu). **American Golden-Plover**: 15 / 28 Mar (3 / 1) near Wal-Mart Dist. Center (DK / DHM). **Semipalmated Plover**: 13 Apr (1) Rankin Bottoms (MBS), ers. **Black-necked Stilt**: 23 May (2) Brainerd Levee (Betty Wampler), 2nd SE Tenn record. **American Avocet**: 19 May (5) John Sevier L. (SHu, photo). **Spotted Sandpiper**: 25 Mar (1) Eagle Bend (RDH, DMy), ers; 26 May (1) Fall Cr. Falls SP, Van Buren Co (DHM), lrs. **Willet**: 5 May (1) Brainerd Levee (TLR); 6 May (1) John Sevier L. (SHu). **White-rumped Sandpiper**: 4 May (1) Brainerd Levee (DCC, LAW); 5 / 11 May (1) separate Washington Co sites (RLK / RBB); 7 May (1) Bradley Co (DCC). **Baird's Sandpiper**: 4 May (1) Brainerd Levee (DCC, LAW), rare in spring. **Dunlin**: 17 Mar (7) Rankin Bottoms (DK); 10 Apr (1) Greene Co (DHM). **Short-billed Dowitcher**: 2-3 / 10 Apr (1) near Wal-Mart Dist. Center (DK / DHM). **Dowitcher sp.**: 8 May (18, flyovers) Standifer Gap Marsh (KAC, DRJ). **American Woodcock**: 22 May (1) Johnson City (RLK). **Wilson's Phalarope**: 4 May (2) Brainerd Levee (DCC, LAW); 4 May (1) Rankin Bottoms (MBS, photo). **Herring Gull**: 21 Apr (1) Austin Springs (RLK), lrs. **Caspian Tern**: 2 / 17 Apr (1 / 4) John Sevier L. (SHu); 29 Apr (3) Rankin Bottoms (MBS); 8 May (1) Tenn. R., Hamilton Co (Danny Gaddy). **Forster's Tern**: 16 / 29 Apr (3 / 1) Rankin Bottoms (MBS); 21 Apr (1) Austin Springs (RLK); 6 May (12) John Sevier L. (SHu); 21 May (3) Tenn. R., Hamilton Co (KAC).

Dove - Thrush: **Eurasian Collared-Dove**: 20 Mar (pair, nest building) Mosheim, Greene Co (DHM, m.ob.). **Black-billed Cuckoo**: 24 Apr (1) Bible Refuge (DHM); 6 May (1) Craven's House (KAC); only reports. **Barn Owl**: 6 Mar / 5 Apr (1) separate Greene Co sites (DHM / DAH); 15 May (2, nest with eggs) Cumberland Co (Joseph Mast); 16 May (1) Washington Co (RLK, Jacki Hinshaw); 25 May (1, found dead) Phipps Bend, Hawkins Co (RAP). **Chimney Swift**: 26 Mar (2) Loudon Co (Carolyn & Phil Snow), ers. **Olive-sided Flycatcher**: 3 May (1) North Cumberland WMA, Anderson Co (David Rankin); 4 May (1) Cumberland Co (EKL). **Eastern**

Kingbird: 7 Apr (1) Sullivan Co (Marty Silver), ties early arrival date in NE Tenn. **Loggerhead Shrike**: reported from 5 sites in Washington Co (m.ob.); 23 May (1) Bledsoe Co (DHM). **Yellow-throated Vireo**: 5 Apr (1) Marion Co (J.N. Howard), ers. **Blue-headed Vireo**: 21 Mar (1) Hamilton Co (DA), ers. **Warbling Vireo**: 24 Apr thru season (reported at 7 sites) Washington Co (m.ob.); 3 May (1) Greene Co (DHM); 26 May (1) Mossy Cr., Jefferson Co (Ben Britton). **Philadelphia Vireo**: 13 May (1) Craven's House (KAC), only report. **Red-eyed Vireo**: 10 Apr (1) Hamilton Co (DA), ers. **Fish Crow**: 6 Mar (7+) along Tenn. R., Knox Co (Chris Welsh); 7 Mar (3) Standifer Gap Marsh (TLR et al.); 4 Apr (1) Norris Dam, Anderson Co (Carolyn & Phil Snow), 1st Co record. **Common Raven**: 6 Mar (1) Greene Co (DHM); 18 Mar / 2 & 10 May (1-2) Limestone (RLK); 24 Mar (1) Steele Cr. Park (LCM); 25 Mar / 15 Apr (1) Kingsport (RAP); 16 Apr (2) Frozen Head SP, Morgan Co (SGS). **Purple Martin**: 9 Mar (1) Hamilton Co (David Stone), ers. **Northern Rough-winged Swallow**: 7 Mar (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (TLR et al.), ers. **Cliff Swallow**: 25 Mar (5) Eagle Bend (RDH, DMy), ers. **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: following a poor winter showing, there were only a few scattered reports in the northern part of the region. **Brown-headed Nuthatch**: 4 Mar (2) Big Bottom Unit, Bridgestone-Firestone WMA, Van Buren Co (EKL), new site. **Winter Wren**: most of May (1, singing) Fall Cr. Falls SP, Van Buren Co (David Vogt), on territory? **Marsh Wren**: 7 Mar (1) Brainerd Levee (TLR); 10 Apr (2) Bible Refuge (DHM); 24 Apr (1) Austin Springs (RLK et al.); 8 May (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (KAC). **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**: 6 Mar (1) Knox Co (Harold Howell), ers. **Gray-cheeked Thrush**: 21 May (1) Steele Cr. Park (LCM), ties late departure date in NE Tenn. **Hermit Thrush**: 27 Apr (1) Johnson City (RLK), lrs. **Wood Thrush**: 14 Apr (1) Hamilton Co (DA), ers.

Warbler - Finch: **Blue-winged Warbler**: 11 Apr (1) Knox Co (Carole Gobert), ers. **Orange-crowned Warbler**: 23 Apr (1) Greene Co (DHM); 24 Apr (1) Knox Co (RDH, DMy et al.). **Cape May Warbler**: 1 Apr (1) Knox Co (KDE), very early. **Black-throated Blue Warbler**: 5 May (1) Knox Co (KDE); 5 / 8 May (1) Craven's House (KAC). **Prairie Warbler**: 10 Apr (1) Hamilton Co (DA), ers. **Blackpoll Warbler**: 24 Apr (1) Knox Co (RDH, DMy et al.), ers. **Cerulean Warbler**: 18 Apr (3) Craven's House (KAC), max there; no reports in Tri-cities area or Greene Co. **Black-and-white Warbler**: 5 Apr (1) Kingsport (John Moyle), ers. **Prothonotary Warbler**: 1 / 15 May (1 / 2) Kinser Park, Greene Co (DHM); 13-22 May (1-2) Austin Springs (RLK); 29 May (3) John Sevier L. (SHu). **Connecticut Warbler**: 3 May (1) Marion Co (TLR); 8 May (1) Brainerd Levee (KAC); 11 May (1, banded) Greenway Farm, Hamilton Co (DA); 15 May (1) Hinch Mtn., Cumberland Co (SJS); good number of reports for East Tenn. **Mourning Warbler**: 8 May (1) Hamilton Co (Janice Chadwell, Gary Brunvoll); 9 May (1) Cove Lake SP, Campbell Co (David Trently, Mike Nelson); 15 May (1) Hinch Mtn., Cumberland Co (SJS). **Common Yellowthroat**: 6 Mar (1) Wal-Mart Dist. Center (DHM); 13 Mar (1 male) Maryville, Blount Co (KTOS); early migrants or did they overwinter? **Hooded Warbler**: 7 Apr (1) Knox Co (KDE), ers. **Wilson's Warbler**: 6 May (1) Greene Co (DHM); 21 May (1) Craven's House (KAC);

only reports. **Vesper Sparrow**: 25 Mar - 4 Apr, reported from Anderson, Greene, & Washington Cos (m.ob.). **Scarlet Tanager**: 13 Apr (1) Hamilton Co (DA), ers. **Rose-breasted Grosbeak**: 24 Apr (1) Knox Co (RDH, DMy et al.), ers. **Blue Grosbeak**: 17 Apr (1) Hamilton Co (David Stone et al.), ers. **Dickcissel**: 5 May thru season (9+ males at 3 sites) Limestone area (RBB, m.ob.), 15th straight year in vicinity; 6 May thru season (1 each at two sites) Greene Co (DHM); 7 May (1) Bradley Co (DCC). **Bobolink**: 2 May (30) Standifer Gap Marsh (KAC); 4 May (35) near Johnson City (RBB); max. **Brewer's Blackbird**: 27 Mar (6) Sequatchie Co (KAC), at traditional wintering site. **Baltimore Oriole**: 2 Mar (1 female) Hamilton Co (Mary Lynn Buttram), perhaps a wintering bird. **Purple Finch**: thru 9 May (2+) Washington Co (GDE), lrs.

Addendum: **White Ibis**: 15 Aug 2009 (1 im) Bledsoe Co (Clyde Blum et al.).

Locations: Austin Springs - in Washington Co; Bible Refuge - in Greene Co; Brainerd Levee - in Hamilton Co; Craven's House - unit of Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park in Hamilton Co; Eagle Bend - a fish hatchery in Anderson Co; John Sevier L. - in Hawkins Co; Limestone - in Washington Co; Rankin Bottoms - in Cocke Co; Steele Cr. Park - in Sullivan Co; Wal-Mart Distribution Center - in Greene Co.

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EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION — Precipitation was below normal in each of the three months during the period. The total rainfall deficit for the season was about 4.5 inches. March was a little cooler than normal, but April and May were much warmer than normal by about 4 degrees. As noted in the Winter Season, snowpack lingered on the summit of Roan Mountain into early April.

Duck - Falcon: **Redhead**: 2 Mar (15) South Holston L (JWC). **Greater Scaup**: 2 Mar (4) South Holston L (JWC). **Bufflehead**: 15 May (1 male) South Holston R. weir, Sullivan Co (Rack Cross), lrs. **Common Merganser**: 7 Mar (1 male) South Holston L (RLK, Jacki Hinshaw), only report. **Common Loon**: 15 May (1) Watauga R., Carter Co (Harry Farthing), lrs. **Horned Grebe**: 15 Mar (6) Fishery Park, Unicoi Co (BKS), few Co records. **Eared Grebe**: 17 Mar (2) South Holston L (RLK), lrs. **American White Pelican**: 17-22 May (7-2) South Holston L (JWC, m.ob.), 6th record in NE Tenn. **Double-crested Cormorant**: 30 Mar / 23 Apr (67 / 129) South Holston L (JWC), max. **Great Egret**: 12 Apr (1) South Holston L (RPL); 24 Apr (1) Holston Valley (RPL, GDE); only reports. **Green Heron**: 9 Apr (1) Unicoi Co (m.ob.), ers. **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**: 16 Mar (6) Sycamore Shoals SP, Carter Co (Gary Wallace), new early arrival date by 2 days in NE Tenn, 4 pairs nesting there (m.ob.). **Swallow-tailed Kite**: 27 Apr (1) Cades Cove, GSMNP (Warren Bielenberg, photo), few park records. **Bald Eagle**: 31 May (1 ad) Wilbur L, Carter Co (JHM). **Red-shouldered Hawk**: 1 May (1)

Hampton Cr. Cove (RBB); 22 May (1 ad, 1 yg) Holston Valley (RPL), rare breeding record in NE Tenn. **Broad-winged Hawk**: 3 Apr (1) Carter Co (BKS), ers. **Peregrine Falcon**: 24 Apr (1) Roan Cr. area of Watauga L., Johnson Co (Tom McNeil et al.).

Rail - Swift: **Sora**: 6 May (1) Orchard Bog, Shady Valley, Johnson Co (Todd & Lynn Eastin). **Solitary Sandpiper**: 19 May (1) Erwin, Unicoi Co (RLK), lrs. **Ring-billed Gull**: 7 Mar (400+) Watauga L., Carter Co (Ellen Parker), high number there; 20 May (1) South Holston L (JWC), lrs. **Herring Gull**: 23 Apr (1) South Holston L (JWC), lrs. **Caspian Tern**: 6 / 18 Apr (4 / 3) South Holston L (Roy Knispel, Gil Derouen, Reese Jamerson / RBB). **Common Tern**: 19 May (2) South Holston L (JWC). **Forster's Tern**: 20 / 23 Apr (3 / 7) Watauga L., Carter Co (RBB / Brookie & Jean Potter); 22 May (3) South Holston L (RLK et al.). **Eurasian Collared-Dove**: 3 May (1) Holston Valley (RLK), 1st Sullivan Co record. **Black-billed Cuckoo**: 1 May (1) Carter Co (Don Holt), only report. **Chimney Swift**: 7 Apr (2) Elizabethton (BKS), ers.

Flycatcher - Siskin: **Alder Flycatcher**: 7 May (1) Carver's Gap, Roan Mtn (Roy Knispel), new early arrival date by 4 days in NE Tenn. **Willow Flycatcher**: 23 Apr (1) Hampton Cr. Cove (Nora Schubert), new early arrival date by 1 day in NE Tenn. **White-eyed Vireo**: 9 Apr (1) Elizabethton (RLK), ers. **Red-eyed Vireo**: 5 Apr (1) Wilbur L., Carter Co (Jean Potter), ers. **Brown Creeper**: 24 Apr (7) Unaka Mtn., Unicoi Co (JHM), max. **Veery**: 20 May (nest with 3 eggs) Roan Mtn (RLK), precedes early date for eggs in Breeding Bird Atlas by 8 days, although that was probably based on a small sample size. **Wood Thrush**: 14 Apr (1) Carter Co (BKS), ers. **Blue-winged Warbler**: 1 May into June (1) Hampton Cr. Cove (RBB, m.ob.). **Golden-winged Warbler**: 24 Apr (1) Unicoi Co (JHM), ers; 1 May (16) Hampton Cr. Cove (RBB), max. **Prothonotary Warbler**: 9 Apr (1) Farmhouse Gallery, Unicoi Co (Barney Keffer, m.ob.), new early arrival date by 5 days in NE Tenn. **Swainson's Warbler**: 24 Apr thru season (1) Buffalo Mtn., Washington Co (RLK, m.ob.); 24 Apr / 12 May (2) Shady Valley, Johnson Co (GDE, RPL / JWC); 16 May (3) Schoolhouse Gap trail, GSMNP (David Trently et al.); 29 May (1) Bald Mtn, Greene Co (DHM). **Vesper Sparrow**: 24 Apr (1) near Elizabethton (Gary Wallace), lrs away from breeding areas. **Fox Sparrow**: 2 Apr (1) Roan Mtn (RLK), lrs. **Red Crossbill**: 8 / 30 May (1) Roan Mtn (RBB / DHM), only reports. **Pine Siskin**: 16 May (pair, 1 carrying nesting material) Roan Mtn (RBB), mid-slope site where they have nested before; also a few reports from the summit of Roan Mtn.

Locations: Elizabethton - Carter Co; GSMNP - Great Smoky Mountains National Park; Hampton Cr. Cove - in Carter Co; Holston Valley - in Sullivan Co; Roan Mtn - in Carter Co; South Holston L - in Sullivan Co.

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KTOS - Knoxville chapter, TOS
NTOS - Nashville chapter, TOS

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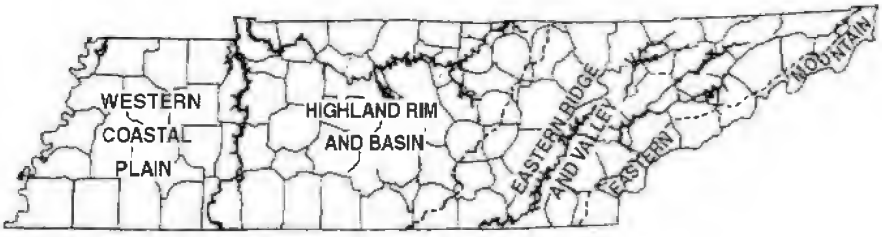
THE SUMMER SEASON

RICHARD L. KNIGHT, Editor



1 JUNE - 31 JULY 2010

Whew! Sweltering temperatures dominated the summer season statewide, caused by a persistent mid-level high pressure ridge over the southeastern U.S. This ridge also blocked any widespread rain, resulting in highly variable precipitation totals from place to place. The extreme heat evidently kept many observers indoors. Despite this, a nice selection of birds were reported this season by those who ventured out.

Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks and Western Kingbirds continued in Shelby County, with a Neotropic Cormorant and White-winged Dove also found there. Scissor-tailed Flycatchers occurred in all four regions. Three Bell's Vireos at Fort Campbell was a good number for this sporadic breeder. A remarkable number of Hermit Thrushes was reported from the Smokies. Magnolia Warblers were found at three mountain sites. Yellow-rumped Warblers summered on Roan Mountain and at three sites in the Smokies, with breeding evidence observed in the latter area, albeit just over the state line into North Carolina. There is a previous breeding record from the NC side of Roan Mountain in 1993. Bachman's Sparrows were found at two areas on the Highland Rim. A Henslow's Sparrow in the Cades Cove section of the Smokies apparently represents further expansion by this species.

Standard Abbreviations

ad - adult
Co - County
Cr - Creek
ers - earliest reported sighting
et al. - and others
fide - reported by
im - immature
Is - Island
L - Lake
max - maximum count
m.ob. - many observers
Mtn - Mountain
R - River
SP - State Park
WMA - Wildlife Management Area
yg - young

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION — June was the second hottest on record for Shelby County, being 6 degrees higher than normal. It was also the fifth driest on record for the month, with less than one third of an inch of rainfall. Conditions were similar for most of West Tennessee, except that Jackson was considerably wetter in June with a 2 inch surplus. The overall trend of above normal temperatures and below average precipitation continued through July. All in all, pretty miserable conditions for birds and birders.

Duck - Falcon: **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck**: 1 Jun thru Jul (up to 22) Ensley & vicinity (JRW, m.ob.). **Blue-winged Teal**: 6 Jun (2 males) Moss Is. WMA (WGC). **Lesser Scaup**: thru 18 Jul (1 male, injured) TVA Lake (JRW, Virginia Reynolds). **American White Pelican**: 5 Jul (75) Moss Is. WMA (WGC); 8 Jul (75) Bogota WMA, Dyer Co (WGC). **NEOTROPIC CORMORANT**: 25 Jul (1) TVA Lake (JRW, photo). **Great Egret**: 26 / 29 Jun (72 / 71) White's Lake WMA / Moss Is. WMA (WGC), above average numbers there. **Snowy Egret**: 26 Jun (145) White's Lake WMA (WGC), max. **Black-crowned Night-Heron**: 5 Jul (1 ad) Moss Is. WMA (WGC). **White Ibis**: 4 Jul (14 im) Mud L., Shelby Co (JRW); 25 Jul (15 im) White's Lake WMA (WGC, Ken Webster). **Wood Stork**: 4 Jul (6) Mud L., Shelby Co (JRW). **Peregrine Falcon**: 7 Jun (1) Shelby Farms, Shelby Co (Virginia Reynolds).

Plover - Tern: **Piping Plover**: 27 Jul (1 male) North Treatment Plant (JRW); 29 Jul (1 female) TVA Lake (JRW). **Black-necked Stilt**: 1 Jun (109, including 21 yg) North Treatment Plant (Jay Walko), max; 27 Jun / 8 Jul (2 pair) Bogota WMA, Dyer Co (WGC); 29 Jun (11) White's Lake WMA (WGC); 5-11 Jul (3) Moss Is. WMA (WGC). **Upland Sandpiper**: 20 Jul (1) Haywood Co (JRW). **Sanderling**: 25 Jul (1) Ensley (JRW), ers. **Semipalmated Sandpiper**: 13 Jul (3) Ensley (JRW), ers. **Western Sandpiper**: 10 Jul (1) Lake Co (JRW), ers. **Stilt Sandpiper**: 25 Jul (2) Ensley (JRW), ers. **Short-billed Dowitcher**: 10 Jul (1) Dyer Co (WGC), ers; 29 Jul (1) Ensley (JRW). **Wilson's Phalarope**: 29 Jul (1 im) North Treatment Plant (JRW). **Laughing Gull**: 27 Jul (1 im) Ensley (JRW). **Black Tern**: 18 Jul (1) Mississippi R., Shelby Co (JRW), ers.

Dove - Bunting: **WHITE-WINGED DOVE**: 18 Jun (1, at feeder) Memphis (Mary Davis, photo, fide Van Harris). **Black-billed Cuckoo**: 15-21 Jun (1) Bartlett, Shelby Co (JRW). **Willow Flycatcher**: 1-6 Jun (2 territories) Shelby Co (JRW). **Western Kingbird**: thru season (18 active nests) Shelby Co (JRW). **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**: thru Jun (1 nesting pair) Shelby Co (JRW). **Western Kingbird x Scissor-tailed Flycatcher hybrid**: thru Jun (1 nesting pair) Shelby Co (JRW). **Grasshopper Sparrow**: 6 Jun (pair feeding yg) President's Is., Shelby Co (JRW). **Painted Bunting**: thru Jun (2) Ensley (SGS, JRW).

Locations: Ensley - in Shelby Co; Moss Is. WMA - in Dyer Co; North Treatment Plant - in Shelby Co; TVA Lake - in Shelby Co; White's Lake WMA - in Dyer Co.

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HIGHLAND RIM AND BASIN REGION — The two month summer season was a very hot one in Middle Tennessee. For example, in Nashville June ranked as the sixth hottest on record and warmest in 57 years. June had 21 days during which the temperature soared into the 90s, resulting in an average temperature for the month that was nearly 6 degrees above normal. July was slightly better with a monthly average that was only 3 degrees above normal, but the month had 25 days when the temperature reached 90 degrees or more. Rainfall in Nashville was 20% above normal in June and 33% above normal in July.

Duck - Nightjar: **Hooded Merganser**: 16 Jun (1 female, 1 eclipse male or im) Harpeth R., Rutherford Co (RHC). **Least Bittern**: 20 Jul (1) Williamsport Lakes WMA, Maury Co (Tommy Edwards). **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**: 11 Jun (1) Nashville (FF); 17 Jul (2) Murfreesboro (TJW, NTOS). **Osprey**: 2 Jul (2) Shelby Bottoms, Davidson Co (Kevin Bowden); 7 Jul (pair) Kentucky L., Houston Co (SJS). **Broad-winged Hawk**: 8 Jun (1 ad. dark morph, 1 im flying together) Fort Campbell, Stewart Co portion (DMo). **Solitary Sandpiper**: 22 Jul (1) Nashville (FF), ers. **Least Sandpiper**: 22 Jul (2) Nashville (FF), ers. **Eurasian Collared-Dove**: 19 Jun (3) Franklin Co (RHC); 28 Jun (1) Lawrence Co (RHC). **Barn Owl**: 19 Jun (2 ad & at least 1 yg at nest) Marshall Co (DMo). **Chuck-will's-widow**: 19 Jun / 24 Jul (2 / 1) Marshall Co (DMo).

Flycatcher - Dickcissel: **Willow Flycatcher**: 7 Jun (1) Fort Campbell (DMo); 10-27 Jun (1) Lewis Co (WMP), in upland saplings. **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**: 17 Jul (1) Rutherford Co (TJW, NTOS). **Loggerhead Shrike**: 8 Jun (pair) Lewis Co (WMP); 19 Jun (1) Franklin Co (RHC). **Bell's Vireo**: 14 Jul (3 territorial males) Fort Campbell (DMo). **Blue-headed Vireo**: 11 Jun - 15 Jul (1-2) Lewis State Forest, Lewis Co (WMP). **Bank Swallow**: 10 Jun (2) Bell's Bend, Davidson Co (Tony Lance). **Sedge Wren**: 23 Jul (1) Fort Campbell (DMo). **Cedar Waxwing**: 27 Jun (pair) Wilson Co (SGS). **Bachman's Sparrow**: 3 Jun (1) Fort Campbell (DMo); 17 Jul (1 each in 2 different clearcuts) Wayne Co (Damien Simbeck, WMP). **Lark Sparrow**: 17 Jul (2) Rutherford Co (TJW, NTOS). **Grasshopper Sparrow**: 7 Jun (2) Fort Campbell (DMo); 12 Jun (5) Warren Co (Susan McWhirter). **Henslow's Sparrow**: 3 / 7 Jun (5 / 10) Fort Campbell (DMo); 15 Jun (5) Fort Campbell, Stewart Co portion (DMo). **Song Sparrow**: 17 Jul (1) Lewis Co (WMP). **Dickcissel**: 3 Jun (4) Fort Campbell (DMo); 11 Jun (3) Warren Co (Susan McWhirter); 7 Jul (1) Houston Co (SJS).

Locations: Fort Campbell - in Montgomery Co., unless specified otherwise.

Addendum: **Bachman's Sparrow**: 28 May 2008 (1, maybe 2) Arnold Engineering Development Center, Franklin Co (Melinda Welton).

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CUMBERLAND PLATEAU / RIDGE & VALLEY REGION — This summer was one of the hottest in memory. Temperatures regionwide were 5 to 7 degrees above average for both months. In the Tri-Cities area, the two-month total of 33 days with 90+ degree heat was more than twice the average number for a whole year. These conditions were exacerbated by a rainfall deficit.

Reports of Little Blue Herons at five sites and White Ibises at three sites, plus a Snowy Egret, indicated a good early flight of waders. Scissor-tailed Flycatchers nested again in two traditional areas, while a single bird at Crossville apparently represented the first record on the Cumberland Plateau. A large Barn Swallow roost in Bristol was unusual. Formerly rather scarce in this region, Dickcissels continued a recent upward trend with their presence in several areas this summer. Savannah Sparrows summered in two counties. Bobolinks returned to a recent nesting area.

Duck - Ibis: **Blue-winged Teal**: 8 Jun (2 males) Cove Lake SP (DR). **Redhead**: 8 Jun (1 male) Cove Lake SP (DR). **Ring-necked Duck**: 10 Jul (1 male) Bledsoe Co (SJS, EKL). **Hooded Merganser**: 8 Jun (1 female) Cove Lake SP (DR). **Least Bittern**: 1 Jul (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (SGS, Ed Schneider), only report there. **Great Egret**: 6 Jul (85) Rankin Bottoms (MBS), max. **Snowy Egret**: 24 Jul (1) John Sevier L. (SHu). **Little Blue Heron**: 11 Jul thru season (1-8 im) Rankin Bottoms (MBS); 17 Jul (1 im) Cove Lake SP (Nell Moore); 18 Jul (5 im) Kyker Bottoms, Blount Co (TH); 21 Jul (5 im) Chota Waterfowl Refuge, Monroe Co (Marcia Davis); 24 Jul (5 im) Brainerd Levee (KAC). **Cattle Egret**: 11-24 Jul (1) Rankin Bottoms (MBS); 20 Jul (2) Steele Cr. Park, Bristol (Charlie Parker); 30 Jul (1) Marion Co (KAC). **Black-crowned Night-Heron**: 4 Jul (1) Greene Co (DHM); 6 Jul (26) Rankin Bottoms (MBS); 10 Jul (1) Bledsoe Co (SJS, EKL). **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**: 19 Jun (2 yg still in nest) Kingsport (DHM); 18 Jul (1) Tyson Park, Knoxville (Richard Hall). **White Ibis**: 11 Jul (2 im) Rankin Bottoms (MBS); 19-21 Jul (1-2 im) Chota Waterfowl Refuge, Monroe Co (Bob Plemons, Marcia Davis); 25 / 26 Jul (2 im) Standifer Gap Marsh / Brainerd Levee (Libby Wolfe / KAC), probably same birds.

Hawk - Owl: **Red-shouldered Hawk**: 18 Jul (2 im) Greeneville (DHM). **Spotted Sandpiper**: 8 Jun (1) Cove Lake SP (DR), late; 4 Jul (1) Greene Co (DHM), ers. **Solitary Sandpiper**: 10 Jul (2) Greene Co (DHM), ers. **Lesser Yellowlegs**: 10 Jul (1) Bledsoe Co (SJS, EKL), ers. **Semipalmated Sandpiper**: 26 Jul (1) Brainerd Levee (KAC), ers. **Least Sandpiper**: 6 Jul (1) Rankin Bottoms (MBS), ers. **Pectoral Sandpiper**: 26 Jul (15) Brainerd Levee (KAC), ers. **Stilt Sandpiper**: 23-26 Jul (1) Brainerd Levee (KAC). **Ring-billed Gull**: 24 Jul (31) Upper Douglas L., Cocke Co (DHM). **Black Tern**: 24 Jul (2) John Sevier L. (SHu) & (12) Rankin Bottoms (MBS), ers. **Barn Owl**: 26 Jun (2) Bible Refuge, Greene Co (DHM).

Flycatcher - Swallow: **Willow Flycatcher**: 1 Jul (1) Cumberland Co (EKL). **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**: 12 Jun / 10 Jul (2 ad / 1 ad with 3 yg) Ninemile Crossroad, Bledsoe

Co (Danny Gaddy et al. / SJS, EKL); 10 Jul (1 ad / 1 ad with 1 yg) different sites in Bledsoe Co (SJS, EKL); 29 Jun / 20 Jul (pair / nest with 3 yg) South Pittsburg, Marion Co (Jimmy Wilkerson); 11-12 Jul (1) Crossville (Mark Anderson, EKL), 1st Cumberland Co record. **Loggerhead Shrike**: 20 Jul (1 ad, 2 yg) Washington Co (Glen Eller), plus singles at 3 other sites in Co. **Warbling Vireo**: thru season (birds at 5+ sites) Washington Co (RLK, m.ob.). **Common Raven**: 30 Jun (1 / 1) Kingsport / Johnson City (John Moyle / RLK). **Horned Lark**: 1 Jul (2) Cumberland Co (EKL). **Barn Swallow**: early - mid Jul (~ 3,000) Bristol (JWC), roosting in trees at hospital.

Warbler - Bobolink: **Prothonotary Warbler**: 4 Jul (1) Kinser Park, Greene Co (DHM). **Swainson's Warbler**: 29 May - 2 Jun (birds at 4 sites) Cumberland Co (Barbara Stedman), none were reported during the Breeding Bird Atlas in this Co. **Savannah Sparrow**: late May into Jul (1-3 each at 2 sites, with food-carrying seen) Washington Co (RLK); thru Jun & Jul (2-3 each at 2 sites) Cumberland Co (EKL, Joseph Mast). **White-throated Sparrow**: 15 Jun (1) Greene Co (RHC). **Dickcissel**: 5 May - 24 Jul (8-12 total at 4 sites) Limestone area, Washington Co (Rob Biller, Glen Eller, Roy Knispel, RLK et al.); 6-20 Jun (singles at 6 sites) Greene Co (DHM); 3-4 Jul (pair, female carrying food & fecal sacs) Cumberland Co (EKL); 3 / 5 Jul (pair, female carrying food) Hawkins Co (SHu); 10 Jul (1) Bledsoe Co (SJS, EKL). **Bobolink**: 14 May - 18 Jun (1-2 males, 1 female) Conklin, Washington Co (RLK, m.ob.), vanished after the field was mowed.

Locations: Brainerd Levee - in Hamilton Co; Cove Lake SP - in Campbell Co; John Sevier L. - in Hawkins Co; Rankin Bottoms - in Cocke Co; Standifer Gap Marsh - in Hamilton Co.

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EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION — It was the warmest summer on record for East Tennessee. Temperatures averaged about 5 degrees above normal for the period. Rainfall was 3.5 inches below normal for the period.

A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in Carter County was the region's second. Several notable reports came from the highlands of Roan Mountain and the Great Smoky Mountains. At a MAPS banding station at Holston Valley in Sullivan County, Kentucky and Hooded Warblers were totally absent this summer after being present in good numbers the previous year.

Bobwhite - Tern: **Northern Bobwhite**: 24 Jun (1) Round Bald on Roan Mtn (RLK). **Great Egret**: 20 Jul thru season (1-4) South Holston L (FRC, JWC, m.ob.); 27 Jul (1) Watauga R., Carter Co (Brookie & Jean Potter). **Black-crowned Night-Heron**: 29

Jul (1) South Holston L. (FRC). **Osprey**: 12 Jun (1) Watauga L. at Elk R., Johnson Co (Joe McGuiness et al.). **Spotted Sandpiper**: 12 Jul (1) Hampton, Carter Co (Bryan Stevens), ers. **Caspian Tern**: 31 Jul (3) South Holston L. (FRC). **Black Tern**: 25 Jul (6) South Holston L. (JWC). **Forster's Tern**: 25-27 Jul (1) South Holston L. (JWC, FRC).

Dove - Thrasher: **Mourning Dove**: 20 May thru Jul (1-2) Carver's Gap on Roan Mtn (RLK). **Black-billed Cuckoo**: 8 Jun (1) Walnut Mtn., Carter Co (Richard Lewis); 28 Jul (1) Hampton Cr. Cove (Darel Wilder). **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**: 8 Jun (pair) near Ripshin L., Carter Co (Scotty Myers). **Alder Flycatcher**: thru season (7+) Roan Mtn & (2) Hampton Cr. Cove (RLK, m.ob.). **Willow Flycatcher**: 6 Jun (4) Shady Valley, Johnson Co (RLK); thru season (1) Hampton Cr. Cove (m.ob.). **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**: 6 Jun (1) near the Laurels, Carter Co (James Brooks), 1st Co. record. **Brown Creeper**: thru season (4-6) Roan Mtn (RLK). **Hermit Thrush**: thru season (6+) Roan Mtn (RLK, m.ob.); 1-4 Jul (42+) Clingman's Dome to Mt Guyot, GSMNP (TH). **Brown Thrasher**: thru season (1-2) Carver's Gap on Roan Mtn (RLK), unusual at high elevation.

Warbler - Siskin: **Blue-winged Warbler**: 1 May thru 5 Jun (1) Hampton Cr. Cove (Rob Biller, m.ob.), few summer records in NE Tenn., with no documented nesting. **Magnolia Warbler**: 30 May / 1 Jun (1 / 2 males) Unaka Mtn, Unicoi Co (RLK / Roy Knispel); 8 Jun - 6 Jul (2-4 males) Roan Mtn (RLK); 3 Jul (1 male) Mt Guyot, GSMNP (TH). **Yellow-rumped Warbler**: 8 Jun - 6 Jul (pair) Roan Mtn (RLK); 1-4 Jul (1 / 1, both males) Clingman's Dome / Mt Guyot, both in GSMNP, plus 1 ad feeding a recently fledged yg near the Tricorner Knob shelter, GSMNP, barely on the NC side (TH). **Swainson's Warbler**: 6 Jun (1) Shady Valley, Johnson Co (RLK); 12 Jun (1) Little Stony Cr., Carter Co (Joe McGuiness). **Vesper Sparrow**: thru season (1-2) Round Bald on Roan Mtn (RLK, m.ob.). **Savannah Sparrow**: 7 Jun (1) Holston Valley, Sullivan Co (RLK). **Henslow's Sparrow**: 4 Jun (1, singing) Cades Cove, GSMNP (Nell Moore), 1st summer record in park. **Indigo Bunting**: thru season (1-5 males, 1 female on 6 Jul) Roan Mtn summit (RLK), scarce at high elevation. **Pine Siskin**: thru season (2-16) Roan Mtn summit & (2+) Roan Mtn mid-slope (RLK, m.ob.).

Locations: GSMNP - Great Smoky Mountains National Park; Hampton Cr. Cove - in Carter Co; Roan Mtn - in Carter Co; South Holston L - in Sullivan Co.

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